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April. Corn closed higher, at 39c for April and 42c for May. Oats were easier, closing at 39c for April and 35c for May. Rye was quiet, at 61c for cash. Barley closed lower, at 42c for March and 50c for April. Hogs were in active demand and 40c for active demand and 40c for cash. Cattle were active and strong, with sales at \$5.50 to \$6.00. Sheep were dull and nominal, at \$3.25 to \$3.50. One hundred dollars in gold would buy \$104.02 in greenbacks at the close.

The Ohio Democrats in the Legislature, after a long and stormy caucus, were unable to agree upon a candidate to be voted for in opposition to SENATOR MATTHEWS. Inasmuch as the nomination now would be a pledge of support by the party in the next Legislature, which will choose Mr. MATTHEWS' successor, strong efforts were made in behalf of GEORGE H. FENNER, but the requisite number of votes could not be obtained from the Democratic members from the rural districts, who refused to be convinced that little affair of the FENNER family and the Kentucky railroad had ever been thoroughly exposed from the record of Gentleman GEORGE.

The Committee appointed by the Common Council to select and report at the next meeting of the Council the names of judges and clerks to serve at the ensuing city and town election is a guarantee that the best men in each precinct will be chosen, and that ballot-box frauds will be lessened. The next thing of importance is that these best men named by the Committee shall every one of them serve, no matter if their private business interests should suffer a little in consequence. It has been amply demonstrated that with honest men in charge of the ballot-boxes, the bumper and devil-fish cannot be counted in, and the judges and clerks to be appointed by the Common Council will receive the ballots for both city and town officers, there is an excellent prospect of a square election.

The speech of the Sultan at the opening of the Turkish Parliament yesterday was largely devoted to a weak apology for the present deplorable condition of the Ottoman Empire, coupled with the customary promises to do better in future. There is no lack of professions of extreme anxiety to institute reforms, and no evident intention of moving a step in that direction. On the day of the publication of the Sultan's speech there are also published reliable accounts of fresh abuses in Bulgaria, Macedonia, and Albania, showing that in those provinces not the slightest effort has been made to mitigate the unendurable outrages to which the Christian population are subjected at the hands of the Turkish taxgatherers and local officials; no step toward establishing security of life and property, and no progress in the direction of fair and equal justice.

Altogether the most important bill before the Illinois Legislature, so far as the interests of Chicago are concerned, is the ANTHONY-ADAMS bill for the collection of two and a half millions of delinquent taxes lost under Bill 300. The public credit of the city is deeply involved in the enactment of the bill. The honest masses of taxpayers protest against being assessed to raise this money out of the pockets of the dishonest class of property-owners who have beaten the city. The bill before the Legislature is just about right, as far as the section making personal property liable for real estate taxes, if it contains such an one, it is of little practical value, and may be stricken out without injury to the bill. But the Legislature must not undertake to amend the bill to make it acceptable to the professional taxgatherers who have swindled the city out of two and a half millions. If the bill is changed to suit this class of gentry, it will never collect any back taxes; nor do we believe it is wise or safe to change and emasculate the bill until Mr. M. S. WENTWORTH (House member of the First District) is satisfied with it. He will continue to have objections so long as there is any vitality left in the bill. His constituents do not understand the motive or meaning of all his objections, and are talking about it, and trying to guess them.

One of the most important and interesting problems that will be presented to the new Secretary of State in regard to the relations between the United States and Cuba, Mr. EVANS' dealings must be with Spain as the Home Government. On the one side, he will be beset with the enthusiasts who will take the first opportunity to appeal in the name of American liberty and universal humanity for the recognition of the Cuban patriots as belligerents, and for all the moral support that can be extended to "Cuba Libre." On the other side, he will be restrained by the conservative who dread any foreign complications. But there is an opportunity here for the new Secretary of State to distinguish the Administration by securing from Spain a new treaty that shall recognize the commercial claims of this country, and prepare the way for something like equitable reciprocity in the trade between Cuba and the United States. It is in this phase of the question that Mr. EVANS should turn his attention at the earliest opportunity.

The war in Cuba still goes on in a desultory way. Persistent persecution on the part of the official class, and desperate outbursts on the part of the native population in revolt, with occasional butcheries and constant cruelty on both sides, have been going on for years. The rebels have never developed sufficient strength to entitle them, perhaps, to recognition as belligerents, but it is equally certain that the Home Government has not shown the requisite power to crush out the revolt and re-establish peace and security in the island. It is well known that the greed of Spain and the policy of exacting from Cuba the entire support of the Home Government have been the cause of the Spanish rule over Cuba. It is this policy also that has swindled the American people out of an equal and fair share in the Cuban trade. Four-fifths of all the rich products of the island are sold to America, and yet one-fifth of Cuba's foreign purchases are procured from this country. Though the producers and manufacturers of the United States could sell the Cuban articles which they must buy abroad more cheaply than they can obtain them in any other country, Spain has constructed and maintained a tariff which virtually prohibits a direct sale of American commodities to Cuba by discriminating against American shipments. The result is that the American people have been forced to pay their differences in Cuban purchases in gold instead of products and manufactures, amounting to many millions yearly. Thus the people of the United States are indirectly made to contribute to the excessive taxation which Spain levies upon Cuba, and which protects the Cuban warfare. This is the situation now.

It ought to be the policy of Mr. EVANS to insist upon a revision of the Cuban customs laws by the Spanish Government in such manner as to relieve the United States of the unjust discrimination against us. This of itself will go far toward remedying the abuses from which the Cubans suffer and bringing about native acquiescence in Spanish rule. The establishment of practical free trade or reciprocity between the United States and Cuba would give Cuba such relief that resistance to the Home Government would be less obstinate and the oppression of Spanish taxation less burdensome to the Cubans. Mr. EVANS' policy should be to state the Monroe doctrine very bluntly to the Spanish Government, and let it understand that it is by the sufferage of the United States that Spanish authority is exercised over neighboring territory. The demand should be made for fair commercial treatment in return for American acquiescence in Spanish dominion over Cuba. If Spain is wise, the ulterior advantages of these concessions to the United States will induce it, even at the temporary sacrifice of part of the extortionate revenue it exacts from Cuba, to comply with this demand. But if it continue its usual short-sighted, obstinate, Bourbon policy, it will be time for the United States to consider the advisability of recognizing the struggling Cubans and calling the Spanish Government to account for the long list of broken promises upon the faith of which former disputes have been settled.

MR. PHILANTHROPIST STORY. The editor of the Chicago Times in his day has played various roles of more or less repute in this community, but never until now has he appeared before the public as a philanthropist. It is the first time that an opportunity has ever offered itself to write him down, like ABRAHAM ADAMS, as one who loves his fellow-men. His philanthropy was broken out in the form of a strenuous opposition to any amendment of the present tax laws so that the back taxes can be collected in Chicago. Let us examine the nature and extent of this philanthropy. The assessments were levied in 1873 and 1874, under the provisions of the city charter and laws, as they had been for thirty years previous, and the money was expended for city purposes. Whether it was expended economically or extravagantly, or whether A, B, or C, who expended it, were swindlers, does not enter into the question. At all times it was levied in pursuance of law for the support of the city for the payment of debt, for the building of bridges and sewers, for protecting the city from fire, for looking after the public health, for educating the children, and for all the needs of the city. Thereupon a large number of heavy property-holders clubbed together to avoid paying their taxes as long as they could. Swindlers were employed to find flaws which would provide sufficient basis for objections. Finally the Supreme Court was persuaded to decide that the law under which the taxes were levied conflicted with the Constitution, and the taxgatherers, representing two millions and a half of taxes which the city had expended three or four years ago, which it has ever since been owing, and upon which it has paid interest ever since, refused to pay up. All the rest of the community, the Chicago Times' philanthropic editor included, had paid their taxes. MR. PHILANTHROPIST STORY'S proposition of grace, mercy, and peace comes in at this point. In the fullness of his sympathy, with bowels widely distended with compassion, yearning to do some one thing before he goes hence that shall commend him to the tender remembrance of the tax-fighting element of the community, he proposes to donate these two and a half millions to the poor oppressed capitalists, and land-owners, and bondholders of Chicago, who have refused to pay their taxes and share their part of the burden of supporting the city, in which they have the same privileges as others and have had the same benefits from the money expended. In other words, Mr. PHILANTHROPIST STORY, in the gushing tenderness of his heart, is willing to pay the \$6,000,000 which is his proportion, for instance, of the deficit out of which the city has been cheated, and proposes, by relieving the two and a half millions upon those who have already paid their taxes, to allow these tax-fighters to dead-beat their municipal advantages and privileges for a period of four years. With this kindly and charitable object in view, he opposes any amendment of the law by which a reassessment can be made, and the tax-fighters be compelled to pay over what they owe. This proposition to allow one-tenth of the community to dead-beat its taxes out of the other nine-tenths is one of the rarest instances of philanthropy on record, and is fortunate, perhaps, that it is rare, else Mr. PHILANTHROPIST STORY might in course of time insist that the community should also pay his butcher's and grocer's bills. If it has to pay their taxes, there is no special good reason why it should not also pay their family expenses, and food and fuel bills. While we admire his philosophy, we cannot but remark, however, that it is limited; that his gushing speech, which would have delighted MICHAEL and HAROLD SKIMPOL, embraces only rich men; and that while his heart yearns and his bowels gush over the wrongs of the rich, he is willing that the middling class and the poor, who cannot afford to fight taxes, shall be compelled to bear the burden of running the city.

Much as we may admire Mr. PHILANTHROPIST STORY, and heartily as we sympathize with the cause of the poor, the taxes of this city who have already paid their taxes will rush forward to pay, in addition to their own, the taxes of the rich tax-fighters, who are nevertheless inclined to test his philanthropy by proposing a compromise. If he be really in earnest, if his heart yearns and his bowels gush for these fellows who have swindled the city, as he would have them, let him select some tax-fighter who has cheated the city—\$6,000,000 paid instance, and pass in his check for that amount. He will then have done his duty. The tax-fighter will have paid his taxes in a vicious way, and there will be no further claim upon his property. If there are any others in the community who are afflicted like Mr. PHILANTHROPIST STORY, let them select their rich tax-fighters and do for them in the same handsome manner. There are others in the community who are not philanthropists, and, having done their duty as good citizens by paying their own taxes, are averse to paying other people's taxes, especially when those other people are better able to do it than they. They have a right to demand such an amendment of the law as shall compel the tax-fighters—all except those whose taxes will be paid by Mr. PHILANTHROPIST STORY and other tender-

hearted citizens—to come forward and pay up what they owe the city. It is a perfectly fair proposition. Does Mr. PHILANTHROPIST







## FINANCE AND TRADE.

## A Dull Day in Discounts--New York Exchange Firm.

**RAILROAD INFORMATION FOR STOCKHOLDERS--Germany and the Silver Market.**

**The Produce Markets Moderately Active, and Generally Finner, but Close Easy.**

**Provisions in Better Demand--Wheat and Corn Steadily--Movement from the Seaboard.**

## FINANCIAL.

There was nothing new in local finance. The demand for discounts was limited, current transactions were not heavy, and the general situation was quiet. The supply of money was of a general character, there being no pressing application from any source for bank favors. There is an ample fund of loanable resources, but it is the disposal of only first-class borrowings that is the question.

Rates of discount were \$2.00 per cent at the banks to regular customers. On the street, business is quiet as bank rates.

New York exchange, gold between banks at 100.00; per \$1,000 premium.

The Chicago and North Western Railroad Corporation.

The attempt of the New York Stock Exchange to get monthly reports from the railroads of the stock of which it has been a member has been a failure. The exchange has been unable to get the reports of the railroads, and the few railroads that have made statements have not been able to get them into the hands of the exchange.

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corporations for the purpose of determining which of them will be the best.

Gold was 104 1/4 @ 104 1/2 in greenbacks.

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FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

London, 100 @ 100 1/2.

Paris, 100 @ 100 1/2.

Berlin, 100 @ 100 1/2.

St. Petersburg, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Francisco, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Antonio, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Diego, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Jose, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Luis, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Marcos, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Mateo, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Pedro, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Rafael, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Ramon, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Salvador, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Sebastian, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Simeon, 100 @ 100 1/2.

San Vicente, 100 @ 100 1/2.

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rales on figures which were not a little less than \$100 per 100 lbs. than the agents were to carry grain from Chicago to the same destination for less than \$100 per 100 lbs. This is a friendly to Chicago with a vengeance. It is no wonder that people in the country desire to send their produce here, stating that they "can do as well at home."

A New York paper states that a prominent firm has made a contract to move 1,000 barrels of corn from St. Louis to Baltimore at 30c per 100 lbs. and that other people are complaining because they cannot get the same rate.

There are signs of activity in produce circles, which will probably be reflected into other departments of industry. A well-known St. Louis flour firm writes that it can sell no more here than it can at an advance. It has plenty of orders from the South, and can obtain good prices at 3,000 miles from St. Louis. There was an order yesterday for 3,000 barrels from Portland, Me., and another for 3,000 barrels from Boston, Mass., to local mills there, 15,000 barrels of which was ordered to move yesterday. These things are not much in themselves, but they are significant--indicating that consumers are beginning to take hold of breadstuffs than previously, having held off as long as possible. The smaller rate of supply to the United Kingdom may also be accepted as a sign that more demand will be experienced from that quarter before long.

The leading produce market is grain, which is active and prices are generally higher than a year ago. Provisions were irregular at a higher range of prices. There was not much doing for shipment, but the receipts were more than 1,000 percent of free offerings. The further fall of snow had little effect upon trading or the course of prices, as it was usually regarded as the last kick of winter. The market was quiet at 10 o'clock this morning, after having lingered there long enough to be voted a nuisance.

Dry goods were ordered a little more freely than for some days past, but the market was far from being active. The weather still operating against an active movement. The grocery market was quiet, with prices of sugar, coffee, and other staples ruling easy. Choice coffees are in scanty supply, and are very firm, but low and medium grades are dull and cheap.

Meat markets are important new features with prices of beef, pork, and mutton ruling steady. Choice beef is in scanty supply, and is very firm, but low and medium grades are dull and cheap.

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